

STATE OF MARYLAND

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Shari T. Wilson, Secretary

BILL NO: House Bill 1289

COMMITTEE: Environmental Matters

POSITION: Oppose

TITLE: Well Drilling – Regulation of Water Supply – Public Hearing and Notice

BILL ANALYSIS:

HB 1289 would require the Department to hold a public hearing prior to adopting a well construction regulation that affects a groundwater aquifer or individual well, if requested by a person living in the affected hydrogeologic area. The public hearing would have to be held in the affected hydrogeologic area. A notice for the public hearing would have to be published in an area daily or weekly newspaper.

POSITION AND RATIONALE:

MDE opposes HB 1289. This bill would unnecessarily increase the cost and time for updating well construction regulations. By policy, Department would hold public meetings for proposed well construction regulations, although not necessarily in all regions of the State.

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
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